

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

100. (Currently Amended) An isolated immunogenic peptide consisting essentially of a portion of SEQ ID NO: 39, wherein said portion comprises (i) at least 9 contiguous amino acids from amino acids 56-70 of SEQ ID NO: 39, or (ii) at least 9 contiguous amino acids from amino acids 448-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39, or (iii) a derivative of either of the foregoing, wherein the amino acid sequence of the derivative is at least 85% identical with (i) or (ii), the immunogenic peptide, wherein the immunogenic peptide or derivative thereof is less than 34 amino acids in length and is recognized by a CD4⁺ T lymphocyte, which is restricted by a Major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC) Class II molecule.

9-34
A derivative of the

101. (Currently Amended) ~~The immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the portion comprises peptide consists essentially of~~ amino acids 56-62 and 64-70 of SEQ ID NO: 39 ~~and amino acid 63 of SEQ ID NO: 39 is substituted with a valine.~~
wherein

102. (Currently Amended) The immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the portion comprises ~~peptide consists essentially of~~ amino acids 56-64 and 66-70 of SEQ ID NO: 39 and amino acid 65 of SEQ ID NO: 39 is substituted with a valine.

103. (Currently Amended) The immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the portion comprises ~~peptide consists essentially of~~ amino acids 448-450 and 452-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39 and amino acid 451 of SEQ ID NO: 39 is substituted with a phenylalanine.

104. (Currently Amended) The immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the portion comprises ~~peptide consists essentially of~~ amino acids 448-455 and 457-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39 and amino acid 456 of SEQ ID NO: 39 is substituted with a valine.

105. (Currently Amended) The immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the portion comprises ~~peptide consists essentially of~~ amino acids 450-455 and 457-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39 and amino acid 456 of SEQ ID NO: 39 is substituted with a valine.

106. (Currently Amended) The immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the portion comprises ~~peptide is a peptide selected from the group consisting of:~~

- (A) ~~a peptide consisting essentially of~~ amino acids 56, 57, and 59-70 of SEQ ID NO: 39 and amino acid 58 of SEQ ID NO: 39 is substituted with a phenylalanine or a valine; and
- (B) ~~a peptide consisting essentially of~~ amino acids 448 and 450-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39 and amino acid 449 of SEQ ID NO: 39 is substituted with a phenylalanine or a glutamine.

107. (Previously Added) The isolated immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the peptide consists of amino acids 56-70 of SEQ ID NO: 39.

108. (Previously Added) The isolated immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the peptide consists of amino acids 448-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39.

109. (Previously Added) The isolated immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the peptide consists of amino acids 57-70 of SEQ ID NO: 39.

110. (Previously Added) The isolated immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the peptide consists of amino acids 449-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39.

111. (Previously Added) The isolated immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the peptide consists of amino acids 450-462 of SEQ ID NO: 39.

112. (Previously Added) The immunogenic peptide of claim 100, wherein the MHC Class II molecule is Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA)-DR.

113. (Previously Added) The immunogenic peptide of claim 112, wherein the HLA-DR is HLA-DRB1*0401.

114. (Previously Added) The immunogenic peptide of claim 100 linked to an MHC Class II molecule, or a portion thereof.

115. (Previously Added) The immunogenic peptide of claim 114, wherein the portion of the MHC Class II molecule is the β chain of the MHC Class II molecule.

116. (Previously Added) A composition comprising an immunogenic peptide of claim 100.

117. (Previously Added) A composition comprising an immunogenic peptide of claim 114.

118. (Previously Added) A method of inducing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes to respond to melanoma, which method comprises:

(i) contacting antigen presenting cells with a composition of claim 116 *in vitro*, and

(ii) simultaneously or subsequently exposing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes to the antigen presenting cells *in vitro*,

whereupon the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes are induced to respond to melanoma.

119. (Previously Added) The method of claim 118, wherein the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes are obtained from a host and the method further comprises:

(iii) administering the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes to the host.

120. (Previously Added) The method of claim 119, wherein the host is a mammal.

121. (Previously Added) The method of claim 120, wherein the mammal is a human.

122. (Previously Added) The method of claim 119, wherein the antigen presenting cells are obtained from the host.

123. (Previously Added) A method of inducing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in a host to respond to melanoma, which method comprises:

(i) contacting antigen presenting cells with a composition of claim 116 *in vitro*, and

(ii) subsequently exposing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in the host to the antigen presenting cells by administering the antigen presenting cells to the host,

whereupon the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in the host are induced to respond to melanoma.

124. (Previously Added) The method of claim 123, wherein the host is a mammal.

125. (Previously Added) The method of claim 124, wherein the mammal is a human.

126. (Previously Added) The method of claim 123, wherein the antigen presenting cells are obtained from the host.

127. (Previously Added) A method of inducing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in a host to respond to melanoma, which method comprises administering the composition of claim 116 to the host, whereupon the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in the host are induced to respond to melanoma.

128. (Previously Added) A method of inducing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes to respond to melanoma, which method comprises:

- (i) contacting antigen presenting cells with a composition of claim 117 *in vitro*, and
- (ii) simultaneously or subsequently exposing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes to the antigen presenting cells *in vitro*,

whereupon the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes are induced to respond to melanoma.

129. (Previously Added) The method of claim 128, wherein the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes are obtained from a host and the method further comprises:

- (iii) administering the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes to the host.

130. (Previously Added) The method of claim 129, wherein the host is a mammal.

131. (Previously Added) The method of claim 130, wherein the mammal is a human.

132. (Previously Added) The method of claim 128, wherein the antigen presenting cells are obtained from the host.

133. (Previously Added) A method of inducing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in a host to respond to melanoma, which method comprises:

- (i) contacting antigen presenting cells with a composition of claim 117 *in vitro*, and
- (ii) subsequently exposing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in the host to the antigen presenting cells by administering the antigen presenting cells to the host,

whereupon the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in the host are induced to respond to melanoma.

134. (Previously Added) The method of claim 133, wherein the host is a mammal.

135. (Previously Added) The method of claim 134, wherein the mammal is a human.

136. (Previously Added) The method of claim 133, wherein the antigen presenting cells are obtained from the host.

137. (Previously Added) A method of inducing CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in a host to respond to melanoma, which method comprises administering the composition of claim 117 to the host, whereupon the CD4⁺ T lymphocytes in the host are induced to respond to melanoma.